

1987, she was honored by Keep America Beautiful with the lifetime achievement award for her exceptional efforts to keep our Nation beautiful. Some of her efforts included working to develop the Avenue of Magnolias at each of Mississippi's interstate State-line entrances and also the garden club wildflower program.

In 1976, she was honored with the Mississippi Volunteer Activist award for the thousands of hours she gave in volunteer service to her community. Indeed, her community activism began early with organizing victory gardens to support America's efforts during World War II.

She was active in the Jones County Republican Party, holding various offices and serving as chairman of both the Jones County Republican Women and the Mississippi Federation of Republican Women.

She was a docent for the Lauren Rogers Museum of Art, where she so enjoyed giving tours and teaching children about the collections at the museum. For decades, she served on the board of the Red Cross and always had helping hands to assist victims of hurricanes and disasters who sought shelter from the storm. During the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, she and my father Hilman welcomed and served meals to hundreds who fled to the Red Cross shelter in Laurel.

Throughout her long life, my mother strung together more than a few pearls of wisdom for the benefit of her 3 children, 7 grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren, but the one that rests at the top of my mind is this: "Leave things in better shape than you found them." Whether it was through the flowers in her garden or the gentle encouragement that banished my fear and doubt, my mother took her own words to heart every day of her life. I will miss her terribly, but I find comfort and inspiration when I remember that the world she left behind for me is a far more beautiful place today than it was when she made her grand entrance 97 years ago.●

#### TRIBUTE TO MIKE DEVRIES

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today I have the distinct honor of recognizing Mike DeVries of Fergus County as Montanan of the Month for his dedication to serving his community and his courage during the Denton fire last December.

Mike joined the volunteer fire department shortly after moving to Denton with his family in 2004 and has been loyal to the department and community ever since, serving as chief for 11 years. On December 1, 2021, Mike's love of his community and resolute leadership was on full display. As the West Wind fire tore through the town of Denton, Mike acted swiftly to maintain incident command and ensure the safety of his firefighters and members of the Denton community.

As Montana suffered a terrible fire season in 2021, Mike not only coordi-

nated aid and resources, he showed care and compassion to his fellow residents of Denton and the surrounding area. He met with folks who were impacted by the fires and connected personally with all of the local firefighters and community members who showed up to help.

Serving as the Denton fire chief is just one of the ways Mike gives back to his community. He is also on the elder board of the Denton Bible Church and has served several terms on the town council. As a volunteer fire chief, he has spent countless hours training, traveling, and managing the department. His son Joel says that Mike is held in high regard by other firefighters as he works to build relationships between Denton and surrounding departments.

While Mike is quick to give credit to his crew, he deserves recognition for his leadership during the 2021 fire season, loyalty to the Denton Fire Department, and compassion for his community.

Keep up the great work, Mike. You make Montana proud.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Swann, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:45 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 812. An act to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization, and for other purposes.

S. 3059. An act to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to provide for a periodic transaction reporting requirement for Federal judicial officers and the online publication of financial disclosure reports of Federal judicial officers, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 496. An act to oppose violations of religious freedom in Ukraine by Russia and armed groups commanded or otherwise supported by or acting on behalf of Russia.

H.R. 923. An act to support the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the Republic of Georgia, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3344. An act to prioritize the efforts of and enhance coordination among the United

States agencies to encourage countries in Central and Eastern Europe to improve the security of their telecommunications networks, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4133. An act to authorize appropriations for the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative, enhance the United States-Caribbean security partnership, prioritize disaster resilience, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4693. An act to advance targeted and evidence-based interventions for the prevention and treatment of global malnutrition and to improve the coordination of such programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5796. An act to amend title 35, United States Code, to establish a competition to award certificates that can be redeemed to accelerate certain matters at the Patent and Trademark Office, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6089. An act to clarify that section 107 of the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act applies sanctions with respect to unmanned combat aerial vehicles following a 2019 change by the United Nations providing additional clarity to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms.

H.R. 6930. An act to authorize the confiscation of assets subject to United States jurisdiction of certain foreign persons, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7311. An act to direct the Secretary of State to develop and submit to Congress a strategy and implementation plan outlining United States efforts to counter the malign influence and activities of the Russian Federation and its proxies in Africa, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7314. An act to require the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a report on the People's Republic of China's support to the Russian Federation with respect to its unprovoked invasion of and full-scale war against Ukraine, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7372. An act to amend the Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 to require the President to establish a semiconductor supply chain working group in response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine and submit reports to Congress on potential future disruptions to the supply chain.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 496. An act to oppose violations of religious freedom in Ukraine by Russia and armed groups commanded or otherwise supported by or acting on behalf of Russia to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 923. An act to support the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the Republic of Georgia and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 3344. An act to prioritize the efforts of and enhance coordination among United States agencies to encourage countries in Central and Eastern Europe to improve the security of their telecommunications networks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 4133. An act to authorize appropriations for the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative, enhance the United States-Caribbean security partnership, prioritize disaster resilience, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 4693. An act to advance targeted and evidence-based interventions for the prevention and treatment of global malnutrition and to improve the coordination of such programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.